

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CU-02 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CAB-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07

IO-13 /107 W

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R 080837Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

TO SECSTATE WAHDC 460

AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

CTF SEVEN TWO PT THREE

CINCPAC

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L VICTORIA 405

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PDIP, PFOR, MPOL, EFIN, SE, FR, UK, US

SUBJECT: SEYCHELLES WEEKLY REVIEW - JULY 8

SUMMARY: HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST WEEK INCLUDED ASSISTANCE TALKS
WITH FRENCH MINISTER OF COOPERATION AND SUCCESSFUL AIRCRAFT
AND SHIP VISITS BY U.S. NAVY. END SUMMARY.

1. FRENCH MINISTER FOR COOPERATION GALLEY VISITED SEYCHELLES
JUNE 28-JULY 3 TO REPRESENT FRENCH GOVERNMENT AT JUNE 29 INDEPENDENCE
DAY CELEBRATIONS AND CONTINUED BILATERAL AID TALKS INITIATED LAST
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FEBRUARY. ACCORDING FRENCH CHARGE CHIOSEUL-PRASLIN, MINISTER GALLEY
HAD TWO DAYS OF INTENSIVE MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT RENE, MINISTER
OF AGRICULTURE FERRARI AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE HODOUL.
FRENCH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WILL BE CONCENTRATED IN PILOT FARMING
SCHEME, COMMERCIAL FISHING SECTOR AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT
OF FORMER B.I.O.T. ISLANDS OF DEROCHE AND FARQUARTR. CHOISEUL-
PRASLIN ESTIMATED TOTAL ASSISTANCE PACKAGE COULD REACH DOLS.

FIVE MILLION AND WOULD BE FINANCED MAINLY THROUGH GRANTS AND SOFT LOANS. GALLEY ALSO REPORTEDLY PROMISED INCREASED CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL AID.

2. ACCORDING BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION, PRESIDENT RENE HAS SELECTED HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW, RALPH ADAM, TO BECOME THE NEW SEYCHELLES HIGH COMMISSIONER IN LONDON. PENDING AGREEMENT, ADAM, A LONG TIME UK RESIDENT, WILL REPLACE GEORGE RASSOOL WHO WAS DISMISSED BY RENE WHEN RASSOOL AIDED WITH DEPOSED PRESIDENT MANCHAM AFTER JUNE 5 COUP D'ETAT. (SEYCHELLES HAS DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL ONLY IN UK. A CHARGE IS ACCREDITED TPARIS)

3. IN FURTHER INDICATIONS OF GROWING CONFIDENCE, ARMED NONT NGE T WHICH HAD BEEN STATIONED AT AIRPORT SINCE JUNE 5 COUP, HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN. ALSO, ONLY ROUTINE SECURITY MEASURES WERE IN EFFECT AT JULY 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY RECEPTION ATTENDED BY RENE AND FIVE OF HIS MINISTERS.

4. ACCORDING GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN, SYECHELLES FORMALLY JOINED INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND ON JULY 1.

5. U.S.S. JONAS INGRAM, A DESTROYER FROM MIDEAST FORCE, VISITED SEYCHELLES JUNE 27-JULY 5 TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES MARKING SEYCHELLES FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE. PRESIDENT RENE
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PERSONALLY RECEIVED CALL FROM COMMANDING OFFICER AND SHIP AND CREW WERE VERY WELL RECEIVED BY NEW GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC.

6. FIRST VISIT BY U.S. NAVY P-3 AIRCRAFT TOOK PLACE JULY 6-7. VISIT WAS UNEVENTFUL AND RECEIVED NO PUBLICITY.

7. SOMALI AIRWAYS, WITH JULY 3 INAUGURAL FLIGHT, BECAME SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CARRIER TO ESTABLISH REGULAR SERVICE IN SEYCHELLES. DECISION TO GRANT TRAFFIC RIGHTS TO SOMALI AIRWAYS PRE-DATED COUP AND WILL PROVIDE FIRST DIRECT LINK FOR ITALIAN TOURISTS. WEEKLY SERVICE WILL ORIGINATE IN ROME WITH TRANSIT STOPS IN CAIRO AND MOGADISCIO. ALSO IN AVIATION, AIR FRANCE HAS ANNOUNCED SECOND WEEKLY PARIS-SEYCHELLES 747 SERVICE TO COMMENCE IN OCTOBER.

8. RED CARPET TREATMENT WAS GIVEN TO WEEK-LONG VISIT OF JEAN BAPTISTE PONANA, CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER OF REUNION COMMUNIST PARTY. ACCORDING GOVERNMENT PAPER, "COMRADE" PONANA HAD TALKS WUOH SEYCHELLES GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON PEACE AND COOPERATION IN INDIAN OCEAN AREA.

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Message Attributes

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